

ABSTRACT

A power supply device supplies electrical power to an electrical circuit that has to be protected from overvoltage. A protecting switch is disposed in a circuit connecting a power source, such as a battery, to the electrical circuit, such as a circuit for igniting an airbag system mounted on a vehicle. The power source voltage is compared with a reference voltage, and a control signal for turning off the protecting switch is generated when the power source voltage exceeds the reference voltage. The electrical circuit is disconnected from the power source, and thereby the electrical circuit is protected from overvoltage.